



Aruba's ONLY English newspaper



## Arikok's majestic wildlife

Page 7

### LIVE ENTERTAINMENT 7 DAYS A WEEK

PROFESSIONAL COMPLIMENTARY PICTURES ON TUESDAY AND FRIDAY



#### SUNDAY:

**MARRYBELL MADURO**  
SINGER  
6:30 - 8:30pm

#### MONDAY:

**ANGELA FLORES**  
VIOLINIST  
6:30 - 8:30pm

#### TUESDAY:

**JEAN PAUL**  
SAXOPHONIST  
6:30 - 8:30pm

#### WEDNESDAY:

**EDDIE KROON**  
SINGER 4:00 - 6:00pm  
**MAILLEYN ALVARADO**  
VIOLINIST 6:30 - 8:30pm

**KARAOKE** 9:00 - 11:00pm

#### THURSDAY:

**MARRYBELL MADURO**  
SINGER  
6:30 - 8:30pm

#### FRIDAY:

**RICKY THOMAS**  
GUITARIST  
7:00 - 9:00pm

#### SATURDAY:

**EDDIE KROON**  
SINGER  
4:00 - 6:00pm

**ANGELA FLORES**  
VIOLINIST  
6:30 - 8:30pm



**WATER'S EDGE**  
RESTAURANT & BAR



**costa linda**  
beach resort

**Happy Hour**  
12 - 1 / 4 - 6 / 9 - 10

\*\*\*  
**PREMIUM BRANDS**  
\*\*\*

Tel +297 583 8000 Ext. 8106 | Reservations at [wateredge-aruba.com](http://wateredge-aruba.com) | Elegant dining, spectacular ocean views enjoyed al fresco or in air conditioned comfort | Located at Costa Linda Beach Resort



## Aruba Sinatra Show By Fred de Jong

Live On Stage •  
@ Caribbean Cinemas

Each Thursday - 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm

USD 40.00 - Limited Seats

Food, Drinks, Transportation & Gratuities Not Included

[arubasinatra.com/book](http://arubasinatra.com/book)

Tickets:



## Pinchos Grill & Bar

Now in its 20th plus year, owned and run by a local family.

Open 7 days a week, as of 5:00PM

Full Service Bar

Live Music on weekends

Reservations: (297) 583 2666 or [reservations@pinchosgrillaruba.com](mailto:reservations@pinchosgrillaruba.com)







Rep. Anna Paulina Luna, R-Fla., speaks during a hearing of the House Task Force on the Declassification of Federal Secrets on Capitol Hill, Tuesday, April 1, 2025, in Washington. Associated Press

By LISA MASCARO  
AP Congressional Correspondent

WASHINGTON (AP) — A tentative deal has been reached with the Florida Republican leading a bipartisan push to allow proxy voting in the U.S. House for

# Tentative deal is reached in Republican fight over proxy voting for new parents

new parents, potentially ending a standoff that halted legislative work for days and threatened to delay a vote this week to advance President Donald Trump's agenda.

House Speaker Mike Johnson and Florida Rep. Anna Paulina Luna, who has been leading the bipartisan push on proxy voting, reached the deal, Luna said in a social media post on Sunday.

Rather than allow proxy voting, Luna said the agreement would formalize a "pairing" system long used in Congress where one member who is physically present in the House cancels out the vote of someone who is absent. Luna said the voting option would be open to all Republicans who are unable to vote, including new parents, the bereaved and lawmakers facing various medical and family emergencies.

"If we truly want a pro-family Congress, these are the changes that need to happen," Luna said.

No further details were immediately available. It was also unclear if the deal would be agreed to by the other lawmakers who had signed on to the proxy voting proposal.

The agreement with Luna could end days of back-and-forth over allowing new parents in Congress to vote by proxy for 12 weeks as they care for their newborns. Johnson has vigorously opposed the effort, calling it an affront to the Constitution that would open "Pandora's box."

But some Republicans refused to go along with Johnson's bid to kill the resolution, with nine of them defying him in a vote last week. By reaching a deal, Republican leaders will likely be able to move ahead this week on key legislative priorities — most critically a revised version of the budget framework that opens the door to Trump's push for trillions of dollars in tax breaks. The Senate approved that budget framework early Saturday morning after grinding through a late-night session.

Trump had said he was in favor of allowing proxy voting for new parents after speaking with Luna, though he said he would defer to Johnson how the House should operate. "I don't know why it's controversial," Trump said.

Luna, who gave birth during her first term in Congress, had championed the proxy voting resolution alongside Democratic Rep. Brittany Pettersen of Colorado, who has a 4-month-old son. The effort drew significant bipartisan support, with 218 lawmakers — the majority of the House, many young parents themselves — signing onto a petition that could trigger a floor vote. The resolution would allow proxy voting for lawmakers who have given birth or pregnant lawmakers who are unable to travel safely or have a serious medical condition. It would also apply to lawmakers whose spouses are pregnant or giving birth.

Pettersen, who has carried her son onto the floor during recent House votes, said the institution needs to change with the times. About a dozen women have given birth while in Congress over the years, and there are many new fathers as well.

"It is unfathomable that in 2025 we have not modernized Congress," she said.

But Johnson, like GOP leaders before him, loathes proxy voting, which had been put in place for about two years during the COVID-19 lockdowns when Democrats had control of the House.

"It was quickly abused. Republicans put an end to it then, and we cannot allow it again," Johnson said in a social media post. □



**Live Entertainment at 8PM**



**MON Latin Dance Show**



**TUE Steelpan Music**



**WED Cultural Dance Show**



**THU Acrobatic Show**



**SUN Violin Show**



**Nightly Watershow 7:30pm - 8:30pm - 9:30pm**

Stores are open from Mon to Sat 10am to 10pm and Sun 5pm to 10pm  
www.paseoherencia.com

f i



## Second child died from measles-related causes in West Texas, where cases are nearing 500

By DEVI SHASTRI and  
AMANDA SEITZ  
Associated Press

U.S. Health Secretary Robert F. Kennedy, Jr. traveled to West Texas on Sunday after a second unvaccinated school-aged child died from a measles-related illness.

Ahead of a "Make America Healthy Again" tour across southwestern U.S., Kennedy said in a social media post that he was in Gaines County to comfort families who had to bury two young children who have died. Seminole is the epicenter of a measles outbreak that started in late January and continues to swell, with nearly 500 cases in Texas alone.

He said he was also working with Texas health officials to "control the measles outbreak."

The child did not have underlying health conditions, and died Thursday from "what the child's doctors described as measles pulmonary failure," the Texas State Department of State Health Services said Sunday in a news release. Aaron Davis, a spokesperson for UMC Health System in Lubbock, Texas, said that the child was "receiving treatment for complications of measles while hospitalized." This is the third known measles-related death tied to



A measles sign is seen at the Texas Tech University Health Sciences Center, Feb. 25, 2025, in Lubbock, Texas.

this outbreak. One was another school-aged child in Texas and the other was an adult in New Mexico. Neither were vaccinated.

Kennedy, an anti-vaccine advocate before ascending to the role of nation's top health secretary earlier this year, has resisted urging widespread vaccinations as the measles outbreak has worsened under his watch.

"The most effective way to prevent the spread of measles is the MMR vaccine," Kennedy said in a lengthy statement posted

on X. The measles, mumps and rubella vaccine has been used safely for more than 60 years and is 97% effective against measles after two doses.

U.S. Centers for Disease Control and Prevention teams have been "redeployed," Kennedy added, although the nation's public health agency never relayed it had pulled back during the growing crisis. Neither the CDC nor the state health department included the death in their measles reports issued Friday, but added it to their

counts Sunday.

Nationwide, the U.S. has more than double the number of measles cases it saw in all of 2024.

More than two months in, the West Texas outbreak is believed to have spread to New Mexico, Oklahoma and Kansas, sickening nearly 570 people. The World Health Organization also reported cases related to Texas in Mexico. The number of cases in Texas shot up by 81 between March 28 and April 4, and 16 more people were hospitalized.

Republican U.S. Sen. Bill Cassidy from Louisiana, a liver doctor whose vote helped cinch Kennedy's confirmation, called Sunday for stronger messaging from health officials in a post on X.

"Everyone should be vaccinated! There is no treatment for measles. No benefit to getting measles," he wrote.

"Top health officials should say so unequivocally b/4 another child dies."

A CDC spokesperson noted the efficacy of the measles vaccine Sunday but stopped short of calling on people to get it.

Departing from long-standing public health messaging around vaccination, the spokesperson called the decision a "personal one" and said people should talk to their doctor and "should be informed about the potential risks and benefits associated with vaccines."

Misinformation about how to prevent and treat measles is hindering a robust public health response, including claims about vitamin A supplements that have been pushed by Kennedy and holistic medicine supporters despite doctors' warnings that it should be given under a physician's orders and that too much can be dangerous. □

## Colorado artist denies trying to distort Trump in portrait

By MEAD GRUVER  
Associated Press

A Colorado artist denies trying to distort Donald Trump's likeness in a portrait that hung until recently in the state Capitol and says the president's criticisms are hurting her business.

She also disputed that the work drew a lot of complaints before Trump weighed in. Trump called the portrait by Colorado Springs painter Sarah Boardman "purposefully distorted" in a March 23 post on Truth Social. Trump added that Boardman "must have lost her talent as she got older" and posted that he pre-

ferred having no portrait in the Colorado Capitol to that one. Legislative leaders announced the next day that they would take the portrait down. It was gone from a wall of past presidents' portraits the next morning, relegated to museum storage. In an emailed statement Saturday, Boardman denied intentionally distorting Trump. While Trump posted that "many people" from Colorado had complained about the portrait, Boardman wrote she "got overwhelmingly positive reviews and feedback" over the six years it hung in the Capitol. That

has changed for the worse since Trump's comments, Boardman wrote.

"President Trump is entitled to comment freely, as we all are, but the additional allegations that I 'purposefully distorted' the portrait, and that I 'must have lost my talent as I got older' are now directly and negatively impacting my business of over 41 years which now is in danger of not recovering." A Colorado Capitol advisory committee commissioned the portrait, approved the reference photo for the portrait and approved her work in progress, Boardman wrote.



A portrait of President Donald Trump hangs on a wall in the rotunda on the third floor of the Colorado Capitol, Monday, March 24, 2025, in Denver.

Associated Press

"I completed the portrait accurately, without 'purposeful distortion,' political bias, or any attempt to caricature

the subject, actual or implied. I fulfilled the task per my contract," Boardman wrote. □



# Judge says deportation of Maryland man to an El Salvador prison was 'wholly lawless'

**GREENBELT, Md. (AP)** — The U.S. government's decision to arrest a Maryland man and send him to a notorious prison in El Salvador appears to be "wholly lawless," a federal judge wrote Sunday in a legal opinion explaining why she had ordered the Trump administration to bring him back to the United States. There is little to no evidence to support a "vague, uncorroborated" allegation that Kilmar Abrego Garcia was once in the MS-13 street gang, U.S. District Judge Paula Xinis wrote. And in any case, she said, an immigration judge had expressly barred the U.S. in 2019 from deporting Abrego Garcia to El Salvador, where he faced likely persecution by local gangs.

"As defendants acknowledge, they had no legal authority to arrest him, no justification to detain him, and no grounds to send him to El Salvador — let alone deliver him into one of the most dangerous prisons in the Western Hemisphere," Xinis wrote. She said it was "eye-popping" that the government had argued that it could not be forced to bring Abrego Garcia back because he is no longer in U.S. custody. "They do indeed cling to the stunning proposition that



Jennifer Vasquez Sura, the wife of Kilmar Abrego Garcia of Maryland, who was mistakenly deported to El Salvador, speaks during a news conference at CASA's Multicultural Center in Hyattsville, Md., April 4, 2025.

Associated Press

they can forcibly remove any person — migrant and U.S. citizen alike — to prisons outside the United States, and then baldly assert they have no way to effectuate return because they are no longer the 'custodian,' and the Court thus lacks jurisdiction," Xinis wrote. "As a practical matter, the facts say otherwise."

The Justice Department has asked the 4th U.S. Circuit Court of Appeals to pause

Xinis' ruling.

Abrego Garcia, a 29-year-old Salvadoran national who has never been charged or convicted of any crime, was detained by immigration agents and deported last month. Abrego Garcia had a permit from DHS to legally work in the U.S. and was a sheet metal apprentice pursuing a journeyman license, his attorney said. His wife is a U.S. citizen.

The White House has de-

scribed Abrego Garcia's deportation as an "administrative error" but has also cast him an MS-13 gang member. Attorneys for Abrego Garcia said there is no evidence he was in MS-13.

In her order Sunday, Xinis referenced earlier comments from now-suspended Justice Department attorney Erez Reuveni in which Reuveni said: "We concede he should not have been removed to El Salvador" and that he re-

sponded "I don't know" when asked why Abrego Garcia was being held.

The Justice Department placed Reuveni on leave after he made the comments. Attorney General Pam Bondi, in an interview on "Fox News Sunday," likened Reuveni's comments to "a defense attorney walking in, conceding something in a criminal matter." "That would never happen in this country," she said. "So he's on administrative leave now and we'll see what happens." Stacey Young, a former Justice Department lawyer and founder of Justice Connection, a network of department alumni that works to support employees, released a statement that defended Reuveni and said he has "zealously represented the United States in some of the most high-stakes and controversial immigration cases under the Obama, Trump, and Biden administrations."

"Justice Department attorneys are being put in an impossible position: Obey the president, or uphold their ethical duty to the court and the Constitution," Young said. "We should all be grateful to DOJ lawyers who choose principle over politics and the rule of law over partisan loyalty." □



Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton makes a statement at his office, May 26, 2023, in Austin, Texas.

Associated Press

**By NADIA LATHAN**  
**Associated Press/Report for America**

A district court judge on Friday awarded more than \$6 million combined to four whistleblowers in their lawsuit against Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton who

were fired shortly after they reported him to the FBI.

"By a preponderance of the evidence," Travis County Judge Catherine Mauzy says in her judgment, the plaintiffs proved liability, damages and attorney's fees in their complaint

## \$6.6 million awarded to whistleblowers who reported Texas Attorney General Ken Paxton to FBI

against the attorney general's office.

"Because the Office of the Attorney General violated the Texas Whistleblower Act by firing and otherwise retaliating against the plaintiff for in good faith reporting violations of law by Ken Paxton and OAG, the court hereby renders judgment for plaintiffs," Mauzy states.

The court found that the four Paxton aides were fired in retaliation for reporting allegations that he was using his office to accept bribes from an Austin real estate developer

who employed a woman with whom he was having an extramarital affair. Paxton has denied accepting bribes or misusing his office to help Nate Paul, the real estate developer.

The judgment also stated that the employees made their reports to law enforcement "in good faith" and that Paxton's office did not dispute any claims or damages in the lawsuit.

"It should shock all Texans that their chief law enforcement officer, Ken Paxton, admitted to violating the law, but that is exactly what happened in

this case," said Tom Nesbitt, an attorney for Blake Brickman, and TJ Turner, an attorney for David Maxwell, in a joint statement Friday evening.

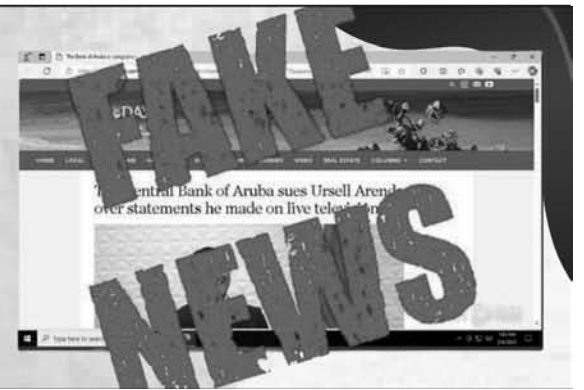
Paxton was at the center of a federal investigation after eight employees reported his office to the FBI in 2020 for bribery allegations. He agreed to settle the lawsuit for \$3.3 million that would be paid by the Legislature. However, the House rejected his request and conducted its own investigation and impeached Paxton in 2023. He was later acquitted in the Senate. □



## Be aware of scams on social media!

Don't click on sponsored ads that are using Aruba Today's likeness. Visit only our official Facebook Page, Aruba Today News or our website, [www.arubatoday.com](http://www.arubatoday.com).

If you encounter any problems, we are here to help: [news@arubatoday.com](mailto:news@arubatoday.com)



## 1 killed in Russian attack on Kyiv as death toll from earlier missile strike rises to 20

**KYIV, Ukraine (AP)** — One person was killed Sunday as Russian air strikes hit the Ukrainian capital, Kyiv, while the death toll from Friday's deadly attack on the central Ukrainian city of Kryvyi Rih continued to rise.

The Kyiv victim was found close to the strike's epicenter of the attack in the city's Darnytskyi district, Mayor Vitali Klitschko said. A further three people were injured in the strike, which sparked fires in several nonresidential areas, damaging cars and buildings. In a statement on social media, Ukrainian President Volodymyr Zelenskyy said the intensifying Russian attacks showed that there is still insufficient international pressure on Moscow.

He said Russia has launched more than 1,460 guided aerial bombs, nearly 670 attack drones and more than 30 missiles at Ukraine in the past week alone.

"These attacks are (Russian President Vladimir) Putin's response to all international diplomatic efforts. Each of our partners — the United States, all of Europe, the entire world — has seen that Russia intends to continue



In this photo provided by the Ukrainian Emergency Service, emergency services personnel work to extinguish a fire following a Russian missile attack in Kyiv, Ukraine, Sunday, April 6, 2025.

Associated Press

the war and the killing," Zelenskyy said.

"That is why there can be no easing of pressure. All efforts must be aimed at guaranteeing security and bringing peace closer."

Zelenskyy also said that the missiles fired into Ukraine had been launched by Russian ships stationed in the Black Sea. While U.S. negotiators

announced on March 25 that both Moscow and Kyiv had agreed to a Black Sea ceasefire, the Kremlin has pushed for some Western sanctions against Russia to be lifted before such an agreement comes into force. "This is one reason why Russia distorts diplomacy and will not agree to an unconditional (Black Sea) ceasefire:

They want to retain the opportunity to strike at our cities and our ports from the sea," Zelenskyy wrote on Telegram. "A ceasefire at sea is not only about free navigation and maritime food supplies, it is, above all, about security." Meanwhile, officials said that the death toll from Friday's attack on Kryvyi Rih had continued to grow, with 20 dead

— including many children — and a further 75 wounded. Oleksandr Vilkul, head of Kryvyi Rih's military administration, declared three days of mourning, starting on April 7. He said that there was "pain in the hearts of millions of people". "Together we will stand. And no matter how difficult it is, we will win," he said. "The enemy will be punished for every Ukrainian and for every mother's tear."

A team from the U.N. Human Rights Office in Ukraine visited the impact site Saturday to document the damage and establish the identities of the nine children killed in the attack. They described it as the deadliest single verified strike harming children since the start of the full-scale invasion in February 2022.

Local authorities said the Kryvyi Rih strike damaged 44 apartment buildings and 23 private houses. The Russian Defense Ministry claimed Friday that it had carried out a high-precision missile strike with a high explosive warhead on a restaurant where a meeting with unit commanders and Western instructors was taking place. □

## Britain expresses outrage after Israel prevents 2 lawmakers from visiting the occupied West Bank

**TEL AVIV, Israel (AP)** — Britain expressed outrage after Israeli authorities prevented two lawmakers from entering the country in order to visit the occupied West Bank. Israel accused the members of parliament of supporting boycotts against it.

Britain's Foreign Secretary David Lammy said late Saturday that it was "unacceptable, counterproductive and deeply concerning" that two British members of parliament were detained and refused entry to Israel.

"I have made clear to my counterparts in the Israeli government that this is no way to treat British parliamentarians," he said. Abtisam Mohamed and Yuan Yang said they were "astounded at the unprecedented step taken by the Israeli authorities to refuse British MPs entry on our trip to visit the occupied West Bank." "It is vital that parliamentarians are able to witness firsthand the situation in the occupied Palestinian territory," they said, adding

that they had planned to visit humanitarian aid projects and local communities. Medical Aid for Palestinians, a charity that helped organize the visit, said the two were questioned upon arrival at Israel's Ben Gurion International Airport before being denied entry and deported. A statement from Israeli authorities accused the two lawmakers of having called for boycotts of Israel and said they were not visiting as part of an official delegation. Israeli law prohibits



This combo of undated photos issued by UK Parliament shows Labour MPs Abtisam Mohamed, left, and Yuan Yang who were denied entry to Israel.

Associated Press

the entry of non-citizens and non-residents who support the Palestinian-led interna-

tional boycott movement, known as Boycott, Divest and Sanctions, or BDS. □



# A rebel group begins handing weapons over to the Colombian government as peace talks advance

By **ASTRID SUAREZ and MANUEL RUEDA**  
**Associated Press**

**PASTO, Colombia (AP)** — A rebel group called the Commoners of the South has begun handing its weapons over to Colombia's government, the Defense Ministry said Saturday, as part of peace talks expected to lead to the group's disarmament in the coming months. The group of about 250 fighters operates in Colombia's Southwestern Nariño province and has been in negotiations with the government since last year.

"This is a historic moment," Defense Minister Pedro Sanchez said in a ceremony in the town of Pasto, where several accords with the group were outlined by officials.

Sanchez said that over the past two days, the Commoners of the South have handed over land mines, grenades and rockets to an army unit that is destroying them. "Farmers will be able to walk without the fear of coming across a minefield," Sanchez said.

Until recently, the Commoners of the South was part of the National Liberation Army, or ELN, a group of about 6,000 fighters that is still fighting Colombia's government.

In May last year, the Com-



**Colombia's President Gustavo Petro, center, stands for the playing of the national anthem during a meeting with delegates of the Comuneros del Sur, a dissident faction of the National Liberation Army or ELN, to discuss ongoing peace talks in Pasto, Colombia, Saturday, April 5, 2025.**

**Associated Press**

moners broke away from the ELN and began peace talks with the administration of President Gustavo Petro. That angered the ELN's leadership and stymied its negotiations with Colombia's government.

Petro, who was part of a rebel group in his youth, has been staging peace talks with nine separate rebel groups and drug trafficking gangs in Colombia under a strategy known as "total peace."

Most of these negotiations have failed to reduce vio-

lence and so far only the Commoners of the South have agreed to begin a transition toward civilian life. "The Commoners of the South are only one of nine problems" faced by the Petro administration, said Gerson Arias, an analyst at the Ideas for Peace Foundation, a think tank in Bogota.

"And they are only a small and marginal segment of Colombia's armed groups," he said.

Arias said the government has been trying to reach regional agreements with

smaller factions of rebel groups that can take some pressure off the population, instead of larger, national accords.

"The talks with the Commoners of the South, are the only ones that may end up succeeding" in the Petro administration, Arias said.

But he added that some issues still need to be resolved, such as the legal mechanisms through which victims of the group will be able to seek justice and truth.

In 2016, Colombia signed a peace deal with the nation's

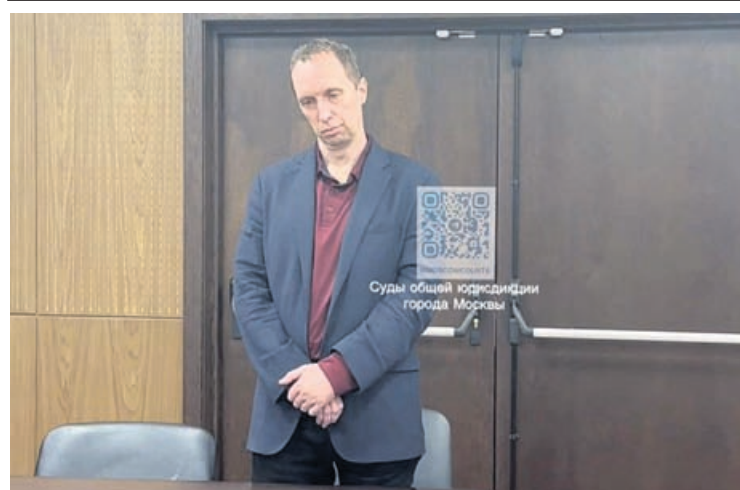
largest rebel group, the Revolutionary Armed Forces of Colombia, or FARC, in which more than 13,000 fighters laid down their weapons. But the FARC's withdrawal from some rural areas created a power vacuum that smaller groups have tried to fill.

Colombia's government is now struggling to provide security in remote rural areas, where various groups are fighting over drug trafficking routes and natural resources, while they forcibly recruit minors and tax local businesses to raise funds.

Earlier this year, more than 50,000 people were displaced from their homes in Catatumbo, a region along Colombia's border with Venezuela, after the ELN attacked villages where it accused farmers of supporting a rival group.

The Colombian government suspended peace talks with the ELN following those attacks, with Petro accusing its leaders of becoming "greedy" drug traffickers who have betrayed their revolutionary ideals.

In Nariño, which is located along Colombia's border with Ecuador, local officials are hoping that Colombia's government keeps rebel groups away from the area, by providing greater security and economic development projects. □



**In this photo released by Meshchansky District Court press service on Wednesday, Aug. 14, 2024, U.S. citizen Joseph Tater stands in a courtroom facing criminal assault charges after allegedly attacking a police officer in a Moscow hotel.**

**Associated Press**

**MOSCOW (AP)** — A U.S. citizen awaiting trial in Moscow has been forcibly admitted to a psychiatric hospital, Russian state media

reported Sunday.

Joseph Tater, 46, was arrested in August 2024 after being accused of assaulting a police officer during

## Moscow court sends U.S. citizen awaiting trial to a psychiatric hospital

a confrontation with staff at an upmarket hotel in the Russian capital.

A Moscow court agreed to admit Tater to a psychiatric hospital non-voluntarily after a medical evaluation on March 15, Russian state news agency Tass reported. It said that doctors had described Tater as displaying signs of "tension, impulsivity, persecutory delusions, and lack of self-awareness regarding his condition."

The U.S. Embassy in Moscow declined to comment on the case, citing privacy concerns.

Tater had been due to stand trial on April 14 on charges of assaulting a police officer, which is punishable with a maximum sentence of five years imprisonment. It is unclear when the court made its decision to detain him on medical grounds, but Tass previously reported that he had been released from pre-trial detention at the end of March. At a September court hearing, Tater claimed he came to Russia to seek political asylum and that he was being persecuted by the CIA.

Tater's defense lawyer has

appealed his forced hospitalization, accusing officials of trying to "isolate the defendant from society," Tass reported.

Human rights groups have repeatedly accused Russia of forcing citizens into psychiatric institutions due to their political views — a Soviet-era practice they say has been increasingly used by President Vladimir Putin's government.

Tater has already served 15 days in jail for the same incident after being found guilty on administrative charges of "petty hooliganism." □



## Aruba's Nature is to be Cherished



**ST. CRUZ —** The national park Arikok comprises almost 18 % of the island. Its rugged terrain, desert-like hills filled with tall cacti, breathtaking coastline and protected local flora and fauna welcome you to be explored. There is numerous wild-life to discover like for example the sea turtle who lays his eggs on the park's beaches. There are more places on the island that are a preserved area like the Bubali Plas which is a bird sanctuary.

The national park Arikok takes you on a memorable journey of the islands past offering unique geological, cultural and historical sites. These can all be enjoyed and explored either on your own or during guided tours. A wide variety of educational and informative programs and fun activities is available.

Did you know that four of the in total seven species of sea turtle lay their eggs on Aruba's beaches?

In the national park, a Least Tern (*Sternula antillarum*) keeps a strict eye on a very special event taking place below on the beach: a majestic Leatherback (*Dermochelys coriacea*) heads back to sea after laying her eggs, while another nest laid 2 months ago by the same female hatches. A very rare occurrence of daytime nesting and hatching. Sea turtles prefer nesting in the cool and dark hours of the night. And hatchlings usually wait for the cue of cooling surface sand before emerging.

### Bubali Magic

This beautiful close-up image of the pink bird is courtesy of Michiel Oversteegen of the Aruba Birdlife Conservation. This important foundation showcases and builds awareness of Aruba's birds and other native flora and fauna. You may have seen a 'pink cloud' lately at the Bubali or Spanish Lagoon Wetlands areas? It's most likely to be Roseate Spoonbills (*Ajaia ajaja*) or 'Chucharon Cora' as they are known in Papiamentu. This unusual looking bird forages in shallow muddy water while sweeping its flattened bill from side to side to catch small fish, crustaceans and other aquatic invertebrates. The Roseate Spoonbill remains an uncommon sight as they are vul-



nerable to degradation of feeding and nesting habitats (Wetlands). (Source: arikok national park)

The aforementioned is just a part of what Aruba's nature has to offer. We cannot stress enough to go, see for yourself. The island has the most beautiful beaches but it is also worthwhile to go beyond this and get an idea of our entire island. Lately there is a discussion going on about the effect certain activities have on our nature, for example the ATV vehicles cause a lot of dust, noise and leave tire tracks. Animals live in these areas where the vehicles run, often with high speed and with detrimental consequences to flora and fauna. Motorized vehicles are forbidden



to drive on the sand dunes in the Northern part of the island and all beaches in Aruba are forbidden for any motorized vehicle. Treasure our island to enjoy it like you do: as a tropical and natural paradise. We truly appreciate it!

Picture credit: Aruba Birdlife Conservation.

## Food culture in Aruba

**(Oranjestad) - Like many other cultures, an important aspect of the Aruban cultural identity is our connection to food and food traditions. The local food traditions consist of a melting pot of different cultural and religious eating habits and dishes.**

### Breakfast, lunch and dinner

The routine of breakfast, lunch and dinner on the island is one that does not completely follow a European or American routine, despite the major influences from these parts of the world on our culture and way of living. When it comes to the three important meals of the day, most of the Aruban population follows a Latin-American influenced routine.

### Breakfast

Breakfast in Aruba is quite simple: a cup of coffee or tea, some bread, and sometimes an egg. Sometimes, due to the need of a quick "to-go" breakfast, you may also find many snack trucks and cafes that sell sandwiches, pastechis (meat pie), arepas and empanadas early in the morning.

### Main Meal

The main meal is typically eaten in most households around noon or in the afternoon. This can consist of meat, fish, and chicken—stewed or fried—with funchi (polenta) or rice with stewed vegetables. Often, fried or boiled plantain or

pan bati (Aruban pancake) is included. Stews are a staple in Aruban cuisine and can be largely influenced by Latin-American and Latin/Afro-Caribbean Stews. Some of the more unique stews and soups from the ABC Islands\* include sopi di bonchi cora (red kidney bean soup with pig tail), sopi mondongo (tripe soup), carni stoba (beef stew), comcomber stoba (West Indian gherkin stew) and much more.

### Dinner Time

Dinner time can vary significantly from household to household. Unlike the U.S. or in Europe, dinner time typically does not consist of a whole (warm) meal. Instead, the evening "meal" can typically consist of something lighter, like a sandwich, though it is not uncommon to see leftovers from the main meal reheated and eaten again. Tea and coffee are often also served with the evening snack.

### (Religious) Holidays

Christmas is probably the biggest global holiday, and every culture has its own spin on what their Christmas cuisine entails. In Aruba, our Christmas cuisine is again largely based on Latin-American influences, most notably from Venezuela. Ayacas and the famous pan di ham\* are two crucial holiday dishes, along with stuffed turkey, roasted glazed ham topped with pineapples, arroz con pollo (rice and chicken) and potato salad, among other items. Tradi-

tional drinks include ponche crema (Aruban eggnog), chuculati pinda (hot chocolate with peanut butter), and homemade fruit punch. Desserts include, bolo di pistachio (pistachio cake), bolo di cashupete (cashew cake), quesoillo (flan), bolo preto (dark fruit cake), drigidek (gingerbread), pan boyo (bread cake) and more.

### Snacks and tasty delights

Besides meals and dishes that are eaten on the dinner table, Aruba also has a food tradition that includes snacks and other tasty delights that you may easily find around the island. These include, Saco\*, basket, pastechi, kroket, deditos, Johnny cake and more. These snacks are usually sold at local snack trucks and cafes, often located on the side of the road. In the area of Tanki Leendert and Tanki flip, for example, there are many of these trucks parked on the side of the road and often open until late at night—offering tasty and filling snacks post night-life fun. □

\*ABC Islands: Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao

\*Pan di ham: Derived from the Venezuelan Pan de Jamon (rolled up bread with ham, raisins and olives)

\*Saco: Saco literally means "bag". Saco contains fried potatoes, plantains, chicken (and ribs) and a Johnny cake, served in a paper bag.

Source: Voeding, voedingsgewoonten en gerechten op Aruba (Nutrition, Food Traditions and Dishes on Aruba) by Biblioteca Nacional Aruba



## Dining in? Try making a local favorite How to make “pan bati”



(Oranjestad)—If you're ever up for an Aruban snack, try making another Aruban classic appetizer called Pan Bati. Similar to a pancake both in appearance and cooking, this is a super easy meal that adults and children will both enjoy. Here's how to make it!

### Ingredients:

2 cups of all purpose flour  
1 cup grams of fine cornmeal (we recommend the Harina PAN brand)  
2 tbsp baking powder  
1 1/3 cup of milk  
1 pinch of salt  
2 tbsp of granulated sugar  
Oil for cooking

### Instructions:

Add all the dry ingredients in a bowl first, and stir until well mixed. Then add the milk and beat until reached a pancake-like consistency. If more moisture is needed, add some water until reached desired consistency.

In a hot pan with oil, pour in enough batter to cover the bottom of the pan. Just like pancakes, flip the pan bati when one side turns golden brown. When your pan bati is ready, place on a plate and cover with a clean kitchen towel.

Traditionally, pan bati is cut in triangle pieces, and is often eaten as a side dish with soup, fried fish or stews. However, it is also casually enjoyed with some butter and cheese on top! □

## The legend of the Kibrahacha tree

(Oranjestad)—The Kibrahacha is a famous tree known locally for its bright, yellow flowers that blooms for just three days. Scientifically known as *Tabebuia billbergii*, and in English as the Yellow Poui, this tree is native to the Caribbean islands of Aruba, Bonaire and Curacao, and is considered among locals as one of the most spectacular trees on the island. But did you also know that the beautiful yellow flowers have a story behind them?



The Kibrahacha is said to have extremely hard wood—so hard that it can break an axe. In fact, that's what its name means in Papiamentu: “kibra” (break) “hacha” (axe). The flowers bloom around April and May, but this only last for about three days, as the flowers start to fall off and the tree starts growing its green leaves. The Kibrahacha is especially particular, as it's the only one among its neighboring trees to start blooming first.

### The legend of the Kibrahacha

Written by Hubert (Lio Booi)

One day Aterima, who lived west of the hill Sero Warawara, woke up one day to find her father sleeping in his hammock, suffering a bout of terrible fever. Her mother was very worried, and as was the custom in the olden days, asked Aterima to go fetch Kudaweche, who was an epistemophile, to come see his father.

Aterima wasted no time and went to go fetch Kudaweche. Upon telling Kudaweche that her father was sick, he immediately accompanied Aterima back to her hut, where he encountered her father in a bad state. Not willing to waste any time, he told Aterima that the only thing that can cure her father is a home-made potion made out of the Kibrahacha flower. At the time the Kibrahacha was not yet in her blooming season, but

the stubborn Kudaweche was determined to bring back Aterima's father back to health, and so off they went to the nearest Kibrahacha tree.

When they arrived at the tree, they saw that it was covered head to toe in thorns, with only a few closed flowers at the very top. Kudaweche, experienced veteran in all things Aruban flora and fauna, told Aterima to start plucking the thorns of the tree to climb to the top where the flowers are. Aterima, just as determined to save her father, didn't hesitate to start. To her surprise, every time she plucked a thorn of the tree, a bright, yellow flower bloomed in its place. The thorns were hard to pluck out, but Aterima continued plucking with enthusiasm and wonder at the unfolding sight before her. Not too long after she was able to fill her entire satchel with the yellow flowers. Kudaweche, satisfied to see Aterima so happy and encouraged to help her father, took her back to her hut.

Upon arriving back at the hut, Aterima's mother quickly made a tea out of the flowers and gave it to her sick husband. Miraculously, after just one sip of the tea, the father's fever left his body immediately, and he opened eyes and sprung up feeling new. The next morning, they all visited the same Kibrahacha tree that saved the life of Aterima's father and they saw another miracle. The tree was covered again in the same bright, yellow flowers, with not a thorn in sight. And as the legend goes, from that day on, the Kibrahacha tree no longer produced any more thorns. □

- 62 units
- 1, 2 & 3 br
- Ocean Views
- High Speed Internet
- Top-of-the Line Finishes
- Security & Valet Parking
- Roof top pool overlooking the Caribbean
- Fitness Center

## CASA PLAYA

RESIDENCES ARUBA

**OPENING**  
**DECEMBER 2025**

A PROJECT BY

In the best block of a revitalized Oranjestad

[www.casaplayaruba.com](http://www.casaplayaruba.com)
[+297-565-4221](tel:+297-565-4221)
[+297-594-6395](tel:+297-594-6395)

[info@casaplayaruba.com](mailto:info@casaplayaruba.com)
[info@bluearubarealty.com](mailto:info@bluearubarealty.com)

*where*  
*timeless*  
*charm*  
**MEETS**  
**MODERN**  
**LIVING**





infini  
by Usha Carr

Honoring our culinary roots  
Explore our 8-course culinary experience now!

f Infini Aruba  
www.infiniaruba.com  
J.E. Irausquin Blvd

infiniaruba  
+297 699 3982  
reservations@infiniaruba.com



## Discover all the benefits that Aruba Quality Apartments & Suites has to offer



Aruba Quality Apartments & Suites has been providing quality service in Aruba since 1995. On the premises are a total of 73 apartments (46 Studio, 22 loft apartments & 5 suites).

Known for its cleanliness, quiet atmosphere, hospitality at affordable daily and monthly rates. All 73 apartments are fully furnished and non-smoking. There is free WIFI on the premises and free international phone calls from the comfort of your room. There is a fresh-water pool, a fitness room and a laundry room. 2 BBQ sets outside. Free parking. And a security guard at night.

Aruba Quality Apartments & Suites is conveniently located less than 1 mile from Aruba's beautiful Eagle Beach, restaurants, hospital / pharmacy, casino's, 2 large supermarkets, car rentals, IMAX cinema and a golf course.

So please, for your next trip to Aruba book directly with us at Aruba Quality Apartments & Suites.

Don't hesitate to contact us...  
Marisella, Aislinn, Janique & Alec. ☐

Aruba Quality Apartments & Suites  
Tel: (297)-582-0697  
WhatsApp: (297)-734-3008

Email:  
info@arubaqualityapartments.com

Website:  
www.arubaqualityapartments.com

Toll Free Calls from the USA & Canada: 1-888-415-1095  
Toll Free Calls from the Netherlands: 085-009-0218  
Office Hours: Monday – Friday: 8am-7pm. Saturday & Sunday: 9am-5pm.  
Facebook: @qualityapartments  
Instagram: aruba\_quality\_aps



Loft Apartment  
QUALITY APARTMENTS

## Aruba Tourism Authority honored loyal visitors at Marriott's Aruba Ocean Club!

The Aruba Tourism Authority recently had the great pleasure of recognizing Emerald Ambassadors of Aruba.



The honorees were respectively honored with a certificate for their years of visits, loyalty, and love for the island of Aruba.

The honorary certification is presented on behalf of the Minister of Tourism as a token of appreciation and to say "Masha Danki" to guests who have visited Aruba 10, 20, or 35 years or more consecutively.

### The three levels of honor are as follows:

Distinguished Visitor (10>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
Goodwill Ambassador (20>years consecutively visiting Aruba)  
Emerald Ambassador (35>years consecutively visiting Aruba)

### The honorees were:

Emerald Ambassadors  
Mr. Tyron & Mrs. Cheryl Johnson from Fairfax Station, Virginia, United States.

Ms. Keyttin Silva representing the Aruba Tourism Authority, and staff members of Marriott's Aruba Ocean Club bestowed the certificate upon the honorees, presented them with gifts, and thanked Mr. and Mrs. Johnson for choosing Aruba as their favorite vacation destination, as their home away from home.

### The top reasons for returning to Aruba provided by the honorees were:

- Aruba's friendly weather.
- Aruba's friendly people.
- Aruba's quality accommodations.
- Aruba's beached
- Golf

On behalf of the Aruba Tourism Authority, we would like to express our sincere gratitude and appreciation to the honorees for their continued visits to the "One Happy Island". ☐



# Basic driving rules on Aruba: Roundabouts

(Oranjestad)—Have you ever felt confused when you're driving on the highways or backstreets of Aruba? Then we present a simple guide to some of the basic rules of Aruban traffic, along with some tips for things to look out for.

## Speed limit

Legally, the speed limit on the four-lane highways is 80 km/h. This speed limit also counts for the main roads that are connected to the highways. The minimum speed is 50 km/h. Most people drive around 60 km/h on the main roads and about 70 km/h on the highways. There are also areas that indicate a speed limit on a sign; these are usually around populated and school areas.

The four-lane highways contain the left-lane, also known as the "fast" lane for each direction. Here is where vehicles can drive up to the maximum speed. However, legally it is not permitted to drive for long periods of time on the left lane. This lane is primarily designed for drivers to switch lanes before a roundabout, for example, if your exit on the roundabout is on your far left. The general lane to drive in—both at maximum and minimum speed—is on the right lane.

## Roundabouts

Speaking of roundabouts, it is important to know where you have to enter and drive on the roundabout to make your exit. A good rule of thumb is to count the exits starting from your right side. So, exit 1 would be on your right; exit 2 would be straight ahead; exit 3 would be on your far left and exit 4 would lead to the road paralleled to the one you're on, heading in



the other direction.

Most roundabouts have these 4 exits, so they are relatively simple. When you're driving on the four-lane highway, it is important to know when to switch to the left lane to make your exit: if your exit is on your far left (exit 3), then you need to switch to the left lane on the high way before nearing the roundabout so you can take the path that leads you directly to your exit. If your exit is on your right or if you're going straight ahead, you can keep driving in the right lane of the highway.

It's also important to know that vehicles about to enter the roundabout must yield to those already on it. A good rule of thumb is to look out if someone is coming from your left side.

However, other roundabouts can

be quite tricky to navigate...

## Watty Vos Boulevard (the "paperclip" roundabout)

Probably the biggest roundabout on the island, the "paperclip" roundabout on the Watty Vos Boulevard is one of the trickier roundabouts that could—and has—caused confused among both tourists and locals. However, once you take a good look at it, it's fairly simple. The basis is just the same as a regular roundabout (left exit? left lane! etc.), but instead of having four different exits like on a regular roundabout, now you have two extra; one on the right and the other on the left side of the roundabout. The rules don't change at all, you just have to keep an extra eye open.

## Airport roundabout

Ah, yes. The infamous airport roundabout. The favorite round-

about amongst local, because of its easy (hard) lanes that never (always) cause confusion among drivers. Sarcasm aside, this roundabout can be tricky to enter, especially when you're driving from the direction of the airport heading. When you're driving away from the airport reaching the roundabout, you'll be faced with three lanes. The far right lane is to take the exit 1 out heading east (right lane of highway). The middle exit is used for exit 1 (left lane of highway), 2 and 3. The far left exit is used to only exit on exit 3 (left lane of highway) and 4.

## "Las Americas" roundabout

The Las Americas roundabout is located near the Talk of the Town hotel, west from the airport roundabout. This roundabout may look like a regular roundabout—and for the most part, it is. However, when you are driving from the east going in the direction of town, please take note that there are two exits on your right.

When you're driving towards this roundabout, you'll notice that the road becomes wider, splitting into two lanes. The right lane is used to take the first and second exit on the right. If you want to exit straight ahead, you must drive on the left lane!

It's always scary to drive in new places where the traffic may look and work differently, but once you get it right once, you'll get the hang of it in no time. Additionally, all roundabouts and roads on Aruba have signs and arrows painted on the road to help guide you. So take your time, keep your eyes open and don't forget to wear a seat belt! ☐





# The Aruban Cunukero

## From past to present



# ANA-DIG-HOCHSTUHL-046 | Archivo Nacional  
E-mail: info@ana.aw | source: https://aruba.ana

**(Oranjestad)—Aruba's culture consists of rich historical traditions that make up the Aruban identity and lifestyle. However, the life of the cunukero (farmer) is perhaps the most important aspect of our culture, in a sense representing to locals the true essence of the Aruban.**

Historically, cunucus (farms) played a huge role in the early social and economic development of Aruba, and its relevance dates back to the early days of the colonization era. Upon being discovered by Spanish conquistadors in the late 15th century, Aruba was used primarily as a ranch, housing horses and cattle brought from Europe. During the Dutch colonization era where the West Indian Company (WIC) dominated the economic sphere on the island, using the land to set up cattle farms and ranches remained popular.

### Anthropologist Sidney Mintz divided Caribbean farmers back in four categories:

1. The "squatters", who were mostly comprised of illegal and poor colonists, runaway slaves and deserters who took advantage of the Spanish's weak supervision on Caribbean islands like Cuba and the DR;
2. Then you have "Early Yeomen", who were legal farmers who came to the west under contract. Once their contract expired, they were given a plot of land for independent use;
3. Proto-Peasants were plantation slaves who were allowed to have a small piece of land to grow food for their own consumption. This was to curb the cost of living on the plantations;
4. Lastly you have the "Runaway Peasantries", usually

comprised of runaway slaves who acquired farming tools and cattle through stealing or through secret exchanges with other slaves from different plantations.

However, the Aruban cunukeros back then are hard to place, and their history may explain why.

From 1636 (beginning of Dutch colonization era) to before the oil industry in 1924, Aruba's population consisted of mostly farmers. These farmers were mostly indigenous and were characterized as peasants. They weren't allowed to participate in trading, but instead were granted a piece of land to live off of. However, in exchange for this grant, these indigenous farmers were obligated to work for the WIC, doing daily tasks such as taking care of or hunting cattle—large majority of which were destined for Curacao, clean water tanks and chop wood, among other things.

As much as these farmers were given to opportunity to live "free" with a plot of land, their exclusion from the trading and business world, as well as being deprived the chance to become real property and cattle owners, made them a unique group among Caribbean farmers at the time.

The WIC placed a lot of restrictions on these indigenous farmers—a method to safeguard their cattle deposit on the island. The indigenous farmers were mostly granted less than 7 acres of land. Those who owned bigger land were either once affiliated with the WIC or were colonists who settled on the island to try their luck at farming. In 1767, there were about 120 hous-



# ANA-DIG-HOCHSTUHL-057 | Archivo Nacional Aruba  
E-mail: info@ana.aw | source: https://aruba.ana



# ANA-DIG-HOCHSTUHL-057 | Archivo Nacional Aruba  
E-mail: info@ana.aw | source: https://aruba.ana

es/cunucus on the island.

These Aruban farmers were also limited to the amount of cattle they could keep. Most kept goats as cattle, as only those who were affiliated with the WIC could keep (more) sheep. Of the 76 goat herders on the island, about 45 of them had less than 30 goats, and only 7 of them had more than 60 goats.

It wasn't until the WIC was defunct in late 18th century that these farmers were able to obtain more freedom as cunukeros. After 1824, the government gave these farmers official permission to keep livestock, and the obligations once placed on them were officially discarded.

Because of the dry climate in Aruba, growing food for commercial purposes was not popular. The focus was mainly on cattle herding and taking care of livestock. However, livestock need food to survive, and when Aruba experienced its duper dry climate, many farmers would see a big loss in their livestock, and hence profit.

Although the WIC at one point did try to come up with an initiative to get more people to have land on

the island, the climate never really allowed real profit from farming. Because of the climate, Aruban farmers in general could not keep large quantities of livestock. At a certain point toward the end of the 18th century, the climate got so bad that many farmers decided to leave the island for a while.

For this reason, the farming economy on the island remained small. As the years went by and people noticed that these farms could not really produce any sustainable profit, farmers kept their small piece of land just to live off of. This is why the Aruban cunukeros only played a very tiny role into the plantation economy.

In modern Aruba, cunucus and cunukeros still exist on the island, fortunately with more freedom and more opportunity to tap into the agricultural market. These farmers usually sell their produce on a smaller scale, like during farmers' market events and other types of (holiday) events. □

**Source: "Arubaans Akkoord: Opstellen over Aruba van voor de komst van de olieindustrie (Aruban Accord: Essays on Aruba Before the Arrival of the Oil Industry)" by Alofs, Luc; Rutgers, Wim; Coomans, Henny E. red.**



## CROSSWORD

By THOMAS JOSEPH

### ACROSS

- 1 Bunches  
5 Small herring  
10 Stubbs of the Four Tops  
11 Tough situation  
12 Perfect place  
13 Made up  
14 Curbside noise-maker  
16 Arctic regions  
20 Gentle touch  
23 Pitching stat  
24 Follows orders  
25 Intense beam  
27 CEO's deg.  
28 Like some lines  
29 Spot for a shot  
32 Base for shingles  
36 Mississippi port  
39 Zilch  
40 Loves to pieces  
41 Shade  
42 Recesses  
43 Woeful cry

### DOWN

- 1 Guinness of film

- 2 Pollux's mother  
3 Finished  
4 "30 Rock" star  
5 Derision  
6 First-rate  
7 Operated  
8 King Kong, for one  
9 TV's Danson  
11 Battle reminders  
15 Highlands girl  
17 Take a breather  
18 Grove growth  
19 Knotty  
20 Rooster topper  
21 "Fernando" group  
22 Bring up  
25 Aerobatics feat  
26 Hawks' home  
28 Day in Hollywood  
30 Long-legged bird  
31 April headache  
33 Sandbox toy  
34 Writer Ferber  
35 "Dog-gone!"  
36 Outlaw  
37 Marital promise  
38 Old card game

GRAMMOMMA  
RAVERCANAL  
ADELEASTRO  
SIRPASSION  
PASSERSMOE  
LEANSBEN  
STEVE  
ABSNESTS  
SPAPASSAIC  
PASSELSMER  
ACHESERASE  
SHEETLILTS  
MESSMEAT

1 2 3 4 5 6 7 8 9  
10 11  
12 13  
14 15  
16 17 18 19  
20 21 22 23  
24 25 26  
27 28  
29 30 31  
32 33 34 35  
36 37 38 39  
40 41  
42 43

4-6

AXYDLBAAXR  
is LONGFELLOW

One letter stands for another. In this sample, A is used for the three L's, X for the two O's, etc. Single letters, apostrophes, the length and formation of the words are all hints. Each day the code letters are different.

### 4-6 CRYPTOQUOTE

GVDRA IVBL VZ KVRB HLAXBL

UQCZ VZ KVRB HVRSU, CZH

UQL HBLCI YXMM UCPL DCBL

VG XUALMG. — ICBP UYCXZ

Cryptoquote: I LOVE PASSOVER  
BECAUSE FOR ME IT IS A CRY AGAINST  
INDIFFERENCE, A CRY FOR COMPASSION. —  
ELIE WIESEL

## SUDOKU

To play sudoku, use logic to fill the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the numbers 1-9 only once. Puzzle difficulty increases from Monday to Sunday.

### King Classic Sudoku

	3	5				9		7
					7	4		
2	7			5	8	3	6	
	5	8	3				7	
6	9	7	2			1	3	8
			7	8			5	9
5		6				7		3
9		4				8		
7			1		9	5		

Difficulty: ★

4/7

### Answer to previous puzzle

4	5	2	9	3	6	7	8	1
3	6	8	1	5	7	4	9	2
9	7	1	4	2	8	3	5	6
7	3	5	8	6	4	1	2	9
2	9	4	7	1	5	8	6	3
1	8	6	3	9	2	5	7	4
6	4	9	5	7	1	2	3	8
8	2	7	6	4	3	9	1	5
5	1	3	2	8	9	6	4	7

Difficulty: ★★★★★

4/6

## Helpful tips for your stay on Aruba

(Oranjestad)—When traveling to another country, especially for the first time, it is always better to be over-prepared than under-prepared. That is why we have a list of basicbut important information that we think may come in handy to Aruba's visitors.

### Electrical power

Aruba generally operates on 110V to 127V supply voltage and 60Hz. There are also three types of outlets used on the island: type A with two flat prongs; type B with two flat and one grounding prong, and on occasion, type F with two round prong and two earth clips on the side. However, Type A is most commonly found in homes and establishments.

### Drinking water

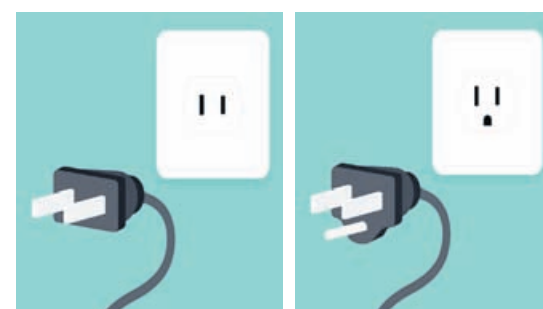
The water that flows through the sinks of every house, hotels and other establishments is distilled and perfectly safe to drink. Aruba's drinking water exceeds WHO's international standards for water quality, so there is no need to buy bottled water from the store.

### Supermarket hours

Supermarket hours may vary depending on where you are staying on the island. Generally though, most supermarkets are open from 8am to 9 or 10pm, Monday through Saturday. On Sundays, supermarkets generally close earlier; mostly around 2pm.

### Safety

Since February 2024, Aruba has been categorized as the safest country in the Caribbean by The Telegraph, and many tourist that visit have often told us how they feel safe to explore the island or walk around at night. However, rare incidents do occurs, so keep yourself and your belongings safe.





# U.S. consumers rush to buy big-ticket items before Trump's tariffs kick in



Rob Blackwell stands next to an EV he started leasing right before U.S. President Donald Trump announced expansive new import tariffs, in Richmond, Va., on April 3, 2025.

Associated Press

By **CLAIRE RUSH** and **MARK THIESSEN** Associated Press

John Gutierrez had been thinking about buying a new laptop for the past year. The Austin, Texas, resident needed a computer with faster processing and increased storage for his photography work and had his sights set on a product from a Taiwanese brand.

Then President Donald Trump announced expansive new import tariffs Wednesday, including a 32% tax on imports from Taiwan. That same day, Gutierrez ordered the laptop, with a base price of \$2,400, from a retailer in New York specializing in photo and video gear.

"I thought I'd bite the bullet, buy it now, and then that way I'll have the latest technology on my laptop and don't have to worry about the tariffs," he said.

Gutierrez was among the

U.S. consumers rushing to buy big-ticket items before the tariffs take effect. Economists say the tariffs are expected to increase prices for everyday items, warning of potentially weakened U.S. economic growth.

The White House hopes the tariffs prod countries to open their economies to more American exports, leading to negotiations that could reduce tariffs, or that companies increase their production in the U.S. to avoid higher import taxes.

Rob Blackwell and his wife needed a new car that could handle long drives from Arlington, Virginia, to their son's college. Their current electric vehicle is older with a limited range, and it will soon be used by his daughter, who is on the verge of getting her driver's license.

"I have been telling my wife

that for some time we were going to need to do it," he said, "and I was watching to see what the president did with tariffs."

Blackwell wanted another EV, but said leasing made more economic sense because the technology is ever-changing. He had his eye on the new General Motors Optiq; it's an American car but made in Mexico, which could be subject to tariffs on supply chains that might increase the cost.

After hearing that tariffs would be announced, they made plans the weekend before to lease the car. He said the dealership honored the agreement they worked out before the tariffs were finalized. And although he said the salespeople were

a pleasure to deal with, Blackwell sensed a shift in their stance.

"They know what we know, which is suddenly it flips from a buyer's market to a seller's market very quickly," Blackwell said, adding that he is happy with his choice.

"It was just a simple rational decision," he said. "If this is what the government's going to do, I need to get my act together." □

## COSTA LINDA

Wanted to buy  
wk 51 & 52  
3 bdrm will pay \$250,000.  
Want wk 7 2bdrm pay \$55,000.  
3 bdrm \$75,000.  
jillkaiserman@newindow.net  
318343



## Editor

Caribbean Speed Printers N.V.  
Aruba Bank N.V. Acc. #332668  
Caribbean Mercantile Bank N.V.  
Acc. #23951903  
RBC Royal Bank Acc. #1330772

## Editors

Pilar Flores  
Richard Brooks  
Angenette Figuereo

## Sales

Mark Gomes  
Sulaika Croes

## Classifieds

classified@cspnv.com

## Distribution and Collection

accounting@bondia.com

## Social / Website

Juan Luis Pinto

Weststraat 22  
T: 582-7800

E: news@arubatoday.com

W: www.arubatoday.com

@arubatoday



## Marriott Aruba Surf Club PLATINUM SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront \$37,000  
2 Bed Oceanside \$26,000  
2 Bed Ocean view \$22,500  
2 Bed Garden view \$18,500  
3 Bed Ocean view \$36,000  
2 Bed WK 51 Ocean view \$65,500  
2 Bed WK 52 Ocean View \$65,500  
2 Bed WK 7 and 14 - all views

## GOLD SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront \$20,000  
2 Bed Oceanside \$15,500  
2 Bed Ocean view \$14,500  
2 Bed Garden view \$13,000  
3 Bed Ocean view \$30,000

## Marriott Aruba Ocean Club PLATINUM SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront \$45,000  
2 Bed Ocean view \$29,000  
1 Bed Ocean front \$23,000  
1 Bed Ocean View \$17,000

## GOLD SEASON

2 Bed Oceanfront \$22,500  
2 Bed Ocean view \$17,000  
1 Bed Oceanfront \$13,000  
1 Bed Ocean View \$11,500

\*\* Destination Points \$4.50  
per point

**We are the #1  
Rental Timeshare  
agent for Aruba!**

We also RENT Aruba weeks for  
owners, Contact us to BUY,  
SELL or RENT any timeshare  
property.

Contact:  
stephanier@conciergerealty.com  
**888-888-2204 Ext 104**

Website:  
www.conciergerealty.com  
Broker: Stephanie Reidel  
www.facebook.com/groups/MarriottArubaSurf/  
www.facebook.com/groups/MarriottArubaOcean



## HEALTH

### DOCTOR ON DUTY

#### Oranjestad

Hospital 7:00 pm / 10:00pm  
Tel. 527 4000

#### San Nicolas

Imsan 24 hours  
Tel. 524 8833

### PHARMACY ON DUTY

#### Oranjestad:

Sta. Cruz: Tel. 585 8028

San Nicolas:

San Lucas: Tel. 584 5119

### OTHER

Dental Clinic 587 9850

Blood Bank Aruba 587 0002

Urgent Care 586 0448

Walk-In Doctor's Clinic

+297 588 0539

### EMERGENCY

Police	100
Oranjestad	527 3140
Noord	527 3200
Sta. Cruz	527 2900
San Nicolas	584 5000
Police Tipline	11141
Ambulancia	911
Fire Dept.	115
Red Cross	582 2219

### TAXI SERVICES

Taxi Tas	587 5900
Prof. Taxi	588 0035
Taxi D.T.S.	587 2300
Taxi Serv. Aruba	583 3232
A1 Taxi Serv.	280 2828

### TRAVEL INFO

Aruba Airport	524 2424
American Airlines	582 2700
Avianca	588 0059
Jet Blue	588 2244
Surinam	582 7896

### AID FOUNDATIONS

Aruba Food Bank  
Tel. 588 0002  
FAVI- Visually Impaired  
Tel. 582 5051  
Alcoholics Anonymous  
Tel. 736 2952  
Narcotics Anonymous  
Tel. 583 8989  
Fundacion Contra Violencia  
Relacional Tel. 583 5400  
Centre for Diabetes  
Tel. 524 8888  
Child Abuse Prevention  
Tel. 582 4433  
Quota Club Tel. 525 2672

### General Info

Phone Directory Tel. 118

Like us on  
Facebook



ARUBA TODAY NEWS

ARUBA  
TODAY

BONDIA  
ARUBA

## How to reach us!

**Downtown**

High Rise Hotel  
Bus Terminal  
Weststraat  
Schepstraat  
Royal Plaza Mall  
L.G. Smith Boulevard  
Caya G.F. Betico Croes  
Caya G.F.



# Alex Ovechkin breaks Wayne Gretzky's NHL career goals record by scoring his 895th

By **STEPHEN WHYNO**

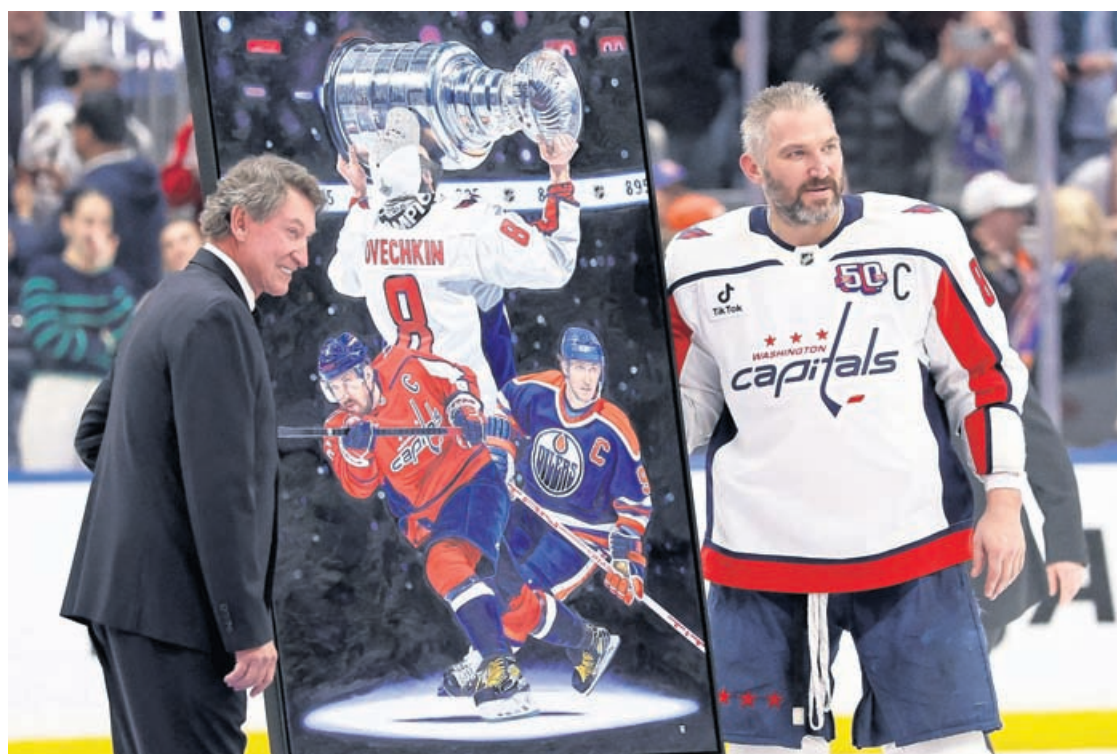
**AP Hockey Writer**

**NEW YORK (AP)** — Alex Ovechkin fired just about the perfect version of his signature one-timer that has defined his remarkable career. When the puck hit the net, it made him the top goal scorer in NHL history.

Ovechkin scored his 895th career goal on Sunday in the Washington Capitals' game against the New York Islanders, beating fellow Russian Ilya Sorokin on a power play with 12:34 left in the second period. He took a cross-ice pass from longtime teammate Tom Wilson and fired a laser past Sorokin with defenseman Jakob Chychrun screening. With the excitement of a child, the 39-year-old belly flopped onto the ice as tens of thousands of fans around him cheered and chanted, "Ovi! Ovi!" while teammates streamed off the bench, mobbing him in celebration.

"Like I always said, all the time, it's a team sport and without my boys — the whole organization, the fans, the trainers, coaches — I would never stand there and obviously I would never pass the 'Great One,'" Ovechkin said.

Ovechkin had never scored on Sorokin before, making his countryman the 183rd different goaltender he has beaten. "Thank you to Sorokin to let me score 895," Ovechkin said. "I love you, brother." Ovechkin broke a record that stood for 31 years and



Washington Capitals left wing Alex Ovechkin (8), right, poses for a photo with Wayne Gretzky during a ceremony after he scored his 895th career goal during the second period of an NHL hockey game against New York Islanders in Elmont, N.Y., Sunday, April 6, 2025.

Associated Press

appeared to be one of the most untouchable in sports. NHL Commissioner Gary Bettman made sure to point that out when he opened the 10-minute ceremony.

"Wayne, you'll always be the 'Great One' and you had a record that nobody ever thought would be broken," Bettman said. "But Alex, you did it. You've been amazing. You have been the consummate player representing the NHL extraordinary on or off the ice. Thank you for all you have given the game."

The first to get a hug from Ovechkin was longtime equipment manager Craig

"Woody" Leydig, then Brock Myles and the rest of the training and locker room staff who have been around him so long. Ovechkin waved to acknowledge the crowd and went through a handshake line with the Islanders as crew members set up for the 895 ceremony that has been months in the making.

Ovechkin got a portrait of himself and Gretzky. Janet Gretzky presented a gift to Ovechkin's wife, Nastya, just as Colleen Howe did to her when her husband broke Gordie's record back in 1994. Ovechkin got No. 895 in his 1,487th game — the same

number Gretzky finished with. Gretzky shook Ovechkin's hand, embraced him and congratulated the "Great 8" and his family for the accomplishment.

"There's nothing better than the National Hockey League," Gretzky said. "They say records are made to be broken, but I'm not sure who's going to get more goals than that." Ovechkin took the microphone from Gretzky like a torch being passed from one legend of the game to another. He thanked injured teammates Nicklas Backstrom and T.J. Oshie, with whom he won the Stanley Cup in 2018,

and expressed his affection for his wife, mother and two sons standing nearby.

"We did it, boys. We did it," Ovechkin said. "And the most important thing, to my mom, my family, my beautiful wife, my father-in-law, my beautiful kids, thank you. I love you so much, and without you, without your support I would never stand here."

More "Ovi!" chants followed. Plenty more will be coming as he attempts to reach 900. Gretzky's total of 894 goals had long seemed unapproachable.

Ovechkin passed it even after missing 16 games in November and December because of a broken left leg, a testament to his durability and a knack for putting the puck in the net consistently for two decades.

He surpassed 40 goals this season for a 14th time — two more than Gretzky and also the most in league history.

Even before this, Ovechkin owned the NHL records for power-play goals, shots on goal and the most goalies scored against, now adding Sorokin to that list. Only Gretzky has more multi-goal games, and Ovechkin earlier this season became just the sixth player with 700 goals and 700 assists, joining Gretzky, Howe, Jaromir Jagr, Marcel Dionne and Phil Eposito.

Ovechkin last moved up the all-time goal-scoring list Dec. 23, 2022, when he got Nos. 801 and 802 to tie and pass Howe. □



Belinda Bencic, of Switzerland, returns a shot to Ons Jabeur, of Tunisia, during the championship match at the Charleston Open tennis tournament in Charleston, S.C., Sunday, April 9, 2023.

Associated Press

**CHARLESTON, S.C. (AP)** — The Charleston Open is keeping

Credit One Bank as its title partner through 2031 along

## Charleston Open will pay women same as men starting in 2026 with bank extending rights deal

with the tennis tournament paying equal prize money to women and men starting in 2026. Credit One Bank announced the rights extension Sunday on the final day of this year's event. Prize money for the WTA-500 level event will be the same as the men's ATP-500 level event. That will make the Charleston Open the first standalone WTA 500 tournament to hike prize money before the 2033 goal for all weeklong WTA 1000 and 500 events to pay the same prize money to women as for men. The

500 level is two below Grand Slams and one level below Masters 1000s.

Amber Greenwalt, Credit One Bank's senior vice president of brand and advertising, said the tournament has had a legacy of empowerment since 1973. This tournament was the first where women were offered \$100,000 in prize money in 1973 and first to be broadcast live on network television. Inaugural champ Rosie Casals's \$30,000 check was the largest payout to a woman that year. "This commit-

ment reflects our dedication to advancing equity both on and off the court, as we continue to champion progress and opportunity for all," Greenwalt said in a statement.

The 2025 Charleston Open prize money will be \$1.06 million and had been set to rise to approximately \$1.15 million for 2026. The purse will match the ATP 500 event, which typically is more than \$2 million with the amount finalized once the official prize money is released for the 2026 season. □



# UConn returns to top of women's basketball, dominates South Carolina 82-59 to capture its 12th title

By DOUG FEINBERG  
AP Basketball Writer

**TAMPA, Fla. (AP)** — UConn is back on top of women's basketball, winning its 12th national championship by routing defending champion South Carolina 82-59 on Sunday behind Azzi Fudd's 24 points.

Sarah Strong added 24 points and 15 rebounds while Paige Bueckers had 17 points in her final game at UConn (37-3).

"Well, it's amazing to have three players, three people like that on the same team," UConn coach Geno Auriemma said. "And Sarah, you would think Sarah was graduating the way she plays, right? All three of them complement each other so well. They all have such unique skill sets."

Bueckers capped her stellar career with the Huskies' first championship since 2016, ending a nine-year title drought for the team. That was longest for Auriemma and his Huskies since the team won its first championship in 1995 led by Rebecca Lobo.

Since then the Huskies have had dominant championship runs, including in the early 2000s led by Sue Bird and Diana Taurasi, 2009-10 with Maya Moore and finally the four straight from 2013-16 with Breanna Stewart. All were in attendance in Florida on Sunday to see the Huskies' latest title.

"You just never know if you'll ever be back in this situation again," Auriemma said. "And there were so many times when I think we all questioned, 'Have we been here too long? Has it been time?' And we kept hanging in there and hanging in there and that's because these players make me want to hang in there every day."

It was the only thing missing from an incredible UConn career that was slowed by injuries. She was the first freshman to win AP Player of the Year before missing a lot of her sophomore season with a tibial plateau fracture and meniscus tear. She then tore an ACL before the next season.

UConn closed the first half up 10 points and then put the game away in the third quarter behind Fudd, Strong and Bueckers. The trio combined for 23 of the team's 26 points in the quarter. UConn was up 50-39 with 3:21 left in the period before closing with a 12-3 run. Fudd, who was named the Most Outstanding Player of the Final Four, and Strong got it started with back-to-back 3s, and the rout was on. Auriemma subbed Bueckers, Fudd and Strong out with 1:32 left in the game. Bueckers and Auriemma had a long hug on the sideline, having finally gotten that championship that he so wanted for her. "They've all been grati-

fying, don't get me wrong. But this one here, because of the way it came about and what's been involved, it's been a long time since I've been that emotional when a player has walked off the court," Auriemma said. Dawn Staley's team was trying for a third title in four years and fourth overall. It would have tied her with Kim Mulkey for third most behind Auriemma and former Tennessee Hall of Fame coach Pat Summitt, who had eight. UConn had reached the title game only once during its drought since 2016. The Huskies had been eliminated by heartbreaking last-second losses in the Final Four on buzzer-beaters.



UConn head coach Geno Auriemma holds up the championship trophy after UConn defeated South Carolina in the national championship game at the Final Four of the women's NCAA college basketball tournament, Sunday, April 6, 2025, in Tampa, Fla.

Associated Press

The Huskies' last title game appearance came in 2022 when Staley's team beat UConn to start the Game-

cocks' current run of success, a game that ended Auriemma's perfect record in title games. □



Palm Beach, Aruba

**Come and join the FUN!**  
**Everyday from 10am till 6pm**  
**We have DOUBLE points**

**BINGO**  
**Play Every Day**  
**Bingo starts at 4:30PM**

**Slot Play \$10**  
**Match Play \$15**

**Sign up and become a VIP Member.**  
**ID required upon redemption!**

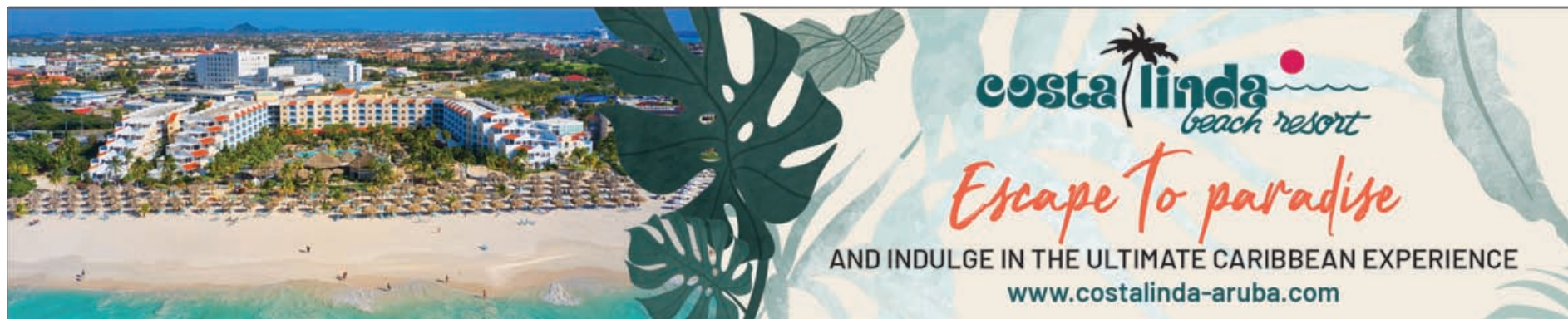


**Operations Hours**  
**Slots: 10am**  
**Table: 4pm**



Located at RIU Antillas. For more info call: 5257777 or Follow us on  





## Start this year's vacation with this amazing experience in the heart of Costa Linda Beach Resort

*Water's Edge Restaurant is a jewel many had the pleasure to find!*

**Palm Beach –** When you think of a restaurant that pleases the needs of a whole family or a large group of people with all different tastes? Think Water's Edge Restaurant. Located at the shore of Aruba's most wonderful beach, The Eagle Beach Aruba. Water's Edge Restaurant is guaranteed to serve you a fantastic magical night to remember. Whether you prefer to enjoy the view from indoors air conditioned comfort, outdoors in the soft tropical breeze or under a palapa with your toes in the sand. This spectacular restaurant offers the best ocean view sunset or sky full of stars dinner while the crispy Caribbean night wind caresses your face and plays with your hair.

From the minute you arrive there will be a great staff welcoming you with the most contagious smiles and warmth. The intense menu with a great variety of appetizers, main courses and delicious desserts will not disappoint. Seafood, Steaks and international favorites. All on one menu specially made just for you.

### Culinary Voyage

Start your gastronomic journey with a scrumptious appetizer such as the Maryland Crab Cakes, maybe the Crispy Calamari or the mouthwatering creamy Garlic Tarragon Shrimp. You can also opt for a classic

French Onion Soup, a Lobster Bisque or the famously Water's Edge House Wedge, a crisp wedge of fresh romaine lettuce topped with homemade blue cheese dressing, diced tomatoes, chopped bacon, caramelized pecans and blue cheese crumbles, drizzled with balsamic reduction. This followed by the Chef's special of seafood such as Fresh salmon filet seasoned and grilled, topped with lemon cilantro butter and served with homemade mashed potatoes and fresh asparagus, a nice plate of Ahi Tuna or a succulent pasta dish like the Florentina Fettuccine Alfredo. Meat Lovers will have their fix with choices of a devourable 22oz. Bone-In "Tomahawk" Rib-Eye, pan seared in garlic infused oil and finished in the oven or our juicy N.Y Strip Loin, seasoned & grilled. All our steaks options are seasoned with a blend of kosher salt and freshly cracked black pepper. Served with homemade mashed potatoes, seasoned vegetables and a choice of red wine reduction, green peppercorn demi glace, mushroom sauce, or bacon blue cheese butter. For extra sides the options are delectable. Fresh asparagus, seasonal vegetables, mashed or baked potatoes, fries or rice and beans. Combine your personal choice with one of the most exclusive wine from the great selection of international wines to compliment your dish. Kids will enjoy every item of the specially compiled kids menu and there are also optional dishes for all vegans, vegetarians and gluten-free guests. To end the culinary voyage with some luscious sweetness, the desserts are wild. From a piece of coconut flan, NY cheese cake, carrot cake, chocolate brownie or our classic Tiramisu with kahlua and amaretto served with chocolate sauce and coffee jelly. Not to mention the fresh and light piece of key lime pie.



### Creating memories

If you are planning a birthday dinner, here you will receive a nice bottle of champagne to take home with you to extend your experience even further whether on the beach or your own private balcony.

### Live entertainment

Just about every day of the week, there is a different live entertainment by the best local artists for you to enjoy. Whether you're in a romantic mood, or more in a swinging mood, there is absolutely a night especially for you where you can combine great music with delicious cocktails mixed with concoctions. In addition, Water's Edge offers three daily Happy Hours from 12pm-1pm, 4pm-6pm and again from 9pm-10pm with all premium brands specially priced.

### Breakfast, Lunch & Dinner

Whether you join us for breakfast, lunch or dinner, Water's Edge Restaurant & Bar offers a relaxed and inspirational dining experience overlooking the beautiful Eagle Beach with spectacular ocean views. Gather with friends and family for drinks and appetizers or a night of pampering and relaxation.

### Thank you to all our guests

From the bottom of our hearts, we would like to Thank all of our guests who showed us so much love and support all throughout the year, and hopefully will continue to do so in the years to come. What we are most grateful for is that we could get back to doing what we love, which is looking after our guests. So, thank you for every dinner, lunch, breakfast, every to-go order, every glass of wine, every birthday, anniversary and date-night that you spent with us this last year. To our new guests, Welcome! We hope you to see you back soon! ☐



*"Water's Edge Restaurant is where magnificent beach views, amazing food and excellent service come together."*

Water's Edge is open daily from 8am – 11pm

To reserve your table please call **+297 583-8000 / ext 8106** or direct line **+297 586-9494**

For more information about the menus, entertainment and hours, please visit the website **watersedge-aruba.com**

